

OCT 12 2001

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13 MR. SOLIE: Here.

14 MODERATOR BROWN: Okay. And Art will be  
15 followed by Judy Treichel and Leuren Moret.

16 MR. SOLIE: This will be rather short. My  
17 name is Art Solie, and I live in Pahrump. I've been  
18 here for about 10 years. And please excuse the hat.  
19 I'm trying to cut down on the glare.

20 (LAUGHTER)

21 I just have a few thoughts on Yucca Mountain.  
22 I can't add much to some of the excellent presentations  
23 that have come before me by Sally Devlin and others  
24 here. In my opinion, I am against the storage  
25 facility. However, I don't believe there's an

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1 immediate danger from the storage facility to anyone  
2 here, in our lifetime. The immediate danger is in  
3 transporting the nuclear waste here. However we get it  
4 here is a problem. It has to be safe. It could be  
5 spread by terrorists or accidentally.

6 Nuclear waste is not safe in the storage  
7 facilities as at Prairie Island and other places. It  
8 would be very easy for a terrorist to attack there. If

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9 they had an atomic device to toss in there, it wouldn't

10 arrive by rocket. It wouldn't arrive by an airplane.

11 It would probably be tossed in in a satchel. Small

12 atomic device would probably weigh a little less than

13 100 pounds, at least the ones I've seen, and it

14 wouldn't be hard to get it in there.

15 But I think the immediate danger at the site,

16 as we said, is none. Problems will occur later down as

17 leakage occurs. If the nuclear materials should

18 concentrate in the right proportion, as they have done

19 a good 20 times in the past at Oklo and other places in

20 the Gabonese Republic, there could very well be a

21 reaction. It would be a low-order reaction, it would

22 get hot, probably melt a little rock, and radiate a

23 little bit. Some of the products would get into the

24 water table and eventually get down to Amargosa Valley

25 and probably Pahrump too. We're not quite sure how our

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1 water gets here.

2 The natural reaction, as I mentioned, the

3 Oklo and the Gabonese Republic are pretty well

4 documented in other works. There's a book that I

5 studied once, it's called "Introduction to Nuclear

6 Engineering" by John Lamarsh. And the Oklo Syndrome is  
7 pretty well documented there.

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8       So in conclusion -- and this is the end -- if  
9 we must store the material instead of recycling or  
10 until we can recycle it, why did we choose a mountain  
11 to place it in? At the expense of appearing  
12 ridiculous, why didn't we store it in the middle of  
13 Death Valley? Just bore a big hole there. At least it  
14 wouldn't seep out any place. It would stay in one  
15 spot. The area there belongs to Uncle Sam, so all he  
16 would have to do is a little interpolitical hassling  
17 and that would be it. Thank you.